

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 OMB-01 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1118

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID PFOR EG

SUBJECT: GOE SEEKS WORLD FOOD PROGRAM SUPPORT

1. DCM RECEIVED VISIT DEC 30 FROM DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND RECLAMATION, DR. SALAH EL-ABD, WHO CAME TO SOLICIT US SUPPORT FOR APPROVAL OF GOE REQUEST FOR FURTHER COMMODITY ASSISTANCE FROM WORLD FOOD RECLAMATION, DEVELOPMENT, AND SETTLEMENT.

2. DR. EL-ABD TOLD DCM THAT GOE WILL HAVE RECEIVED ASSISTANCE EQUIVALENT TO \$62 MILLION OVER SIX YEARS (ENDING 1975) UNDER WFP ASSISTED PROJECT ARE 535. EL-ABD REPORTED THAT GOE HAD ALREADY RESETTLED 250,000 ACRES OF OVER 900,000 ACRE AREA RECLAIMED OUT OF POSSIBLE 1.3 MILLION ACRES WHICH CAN BE IRRIGATED THROUGH ASWAN DAM. THEY EXPECTED TO RESETTLE ANOTHER 120,000 ACRES DURING 1975. HE EXPLAINED THAT WFP FOOD ASSISTANCE REPLACED ORIGINAL GOE CASH SUBSIDIES PROVIDED SETTLERS WHICH WERE NOW DEPOSITED IN "SAVINGS PROGRAM" USED TO IMPROVE INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES FOR NEW SETTLERS.

3. GOE, ACCORDING TO DR. SALAH EL-ABD, WAS NOW SEEKING COMMODITY ASSISTANCE, VALUED AT \$60 MILLION PER FOUR YEAR PERIOD 1976-1980, DURING WHICH 160,000 ACRES ARE TO
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BE RESETTLED. THIS REQUEST FOR SUPPORT IS TO BE CONSIDERED

BY THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL (IGC) OF WFP IN NEAR
FUTURE. EGYPT IS ANXIOUS TO OBTAIN CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR
EXPANSION OF ITS LAND RECLAMATION AND RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM
AND ASKS THAT THE USG, AS AN IGC MEMBER, SUPPORT
ITS REQUEST.

4. DCM AGREED ADVISE DEPT OF EL-ABD'S APPROACH, WHICH HE
FELT WOULD RECEIVE SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION BY USG.

5. INFORMATIONAL REPORT SUPPLIED BY DR. EL-ABD BEING
FORWARDED BY AIRGRAM.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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